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**United States Patent** [19]**Meier et al.**[11] **Patent Number:** **5,196,838**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Mar. 23, 1993**[54] **INTELLIGENT SCROLLING**[75] **Inventors:** John R. Meier; John W. Sullivan,  
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Calif.[21] **Appl. No.:** 635,228[22] **Filed:** Dec. 28, 1990[51] **Int. Cl.<sup>5</sup>** ..... G09G 3/02[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... 340/724; 340/721;  
340/726[58] **Field of Search** ..... 340/721, 723, 724, 726,  
340/731, 709, 706, 710[56] **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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Zafman[57] **ABSTRACT**

A method and apparatus for intelligent scrolling. In a computer system that has a user interface which allows for the movement of items from a first open window to a second open window or to a second region, such as a desktop, the present invention allows a user to select one or more items in the first window, move the selected item(s) to within a predetermined distance from an edge of the first window for a predetermined period of time and cause the viewable portion of the data and/or document within the first window to scroll in a corresponding direction.

**19 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets**